

3 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

THROUGH: Acting Chief, TISD

FROM: Chief, TISD/TIB

SUBJECT: Purpose of Visit [REDACTED]

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1. The [REDACTED] stereo comparator is a complex piece of equipment which has several unique features that we are not entirely familiar with. Past experience has proven that a greater understanding of the capability of a piece of equipment can be gained by working directly with the manufacturer at his plant. Only in such a manner can one receive full appreciation of the operation, calibration, and maintenance considerations associated with the equipment.

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2. The intent is that [REDACTED] will perform acceptance tests on the instrument as project monitor. The tests can be performed during the final stages of assembly, after the [REDACTED] units are merged with the comparator. The philosophy behind the acceptance test is as follows:

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To observe the necessary operational procedures and evaluate their effect on successful production operation of the instrument with special emphasis on future photographic systems. Also if a particular control or method of operation proves impractical or some useful control is not provided, the time to correct it is on the first [REDACTED] i.e. before all three [REDACTED] are delivered. All other pertinent aspects of the acceptance test can be covered by [REDACTED] as outlined below.

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3. [REDACTED] intent is to follow, step by step, the assembly of the instrument to acquire as complete knowledge of the whole instrument as possible within the time allotted. This is to include mechanical assembly, optical alignment and testing, trouble shooting, and error detection of the electronic circuitry. Of importance is the merging of the [REDACTED] Moire Fringe system with the basic comparator. The basic accuracy of the entire system depends on the mounting of the fringe gratings, therefore, the procedure must be diligently studied for maintenance and calibration.

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Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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4. While [] has a maintenance force in D.C. they are not trained to handle all aspects of the [] particularly the electronic parts. The maintenance that they will provide will be of an optical-mechanical nature. Notwithstanding adequate knowledge of the construction, electronic circuitry and optical alignment will permit many on-the-spot repairs or enable detecting failures before total breakdown, and thus minimize down-time.

5. To maintain and check the accuracy of a comparator, a calibration procedure must be accomplished. Calibration is a lengthy, complicated procedure and must be performed periodically. [] should be thoroughly familiar with the calibration technique.

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NPIC/TISD/TIB: []

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